



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 09432/183002  
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 09/977,746

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mallis, *et al.*  
Serial No.: 09/977, 746  
Filed : October 15, 2001  
Title : WEDGE THREAD WITH TORQUE SHOULDER

Art Unit : 3679  
Examiner : E. Nicholson

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

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**GROUP 3600**

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed on December 16, 2003, please reconsider the application in view of the following amendments and the included remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for careful review of the specification and claims.